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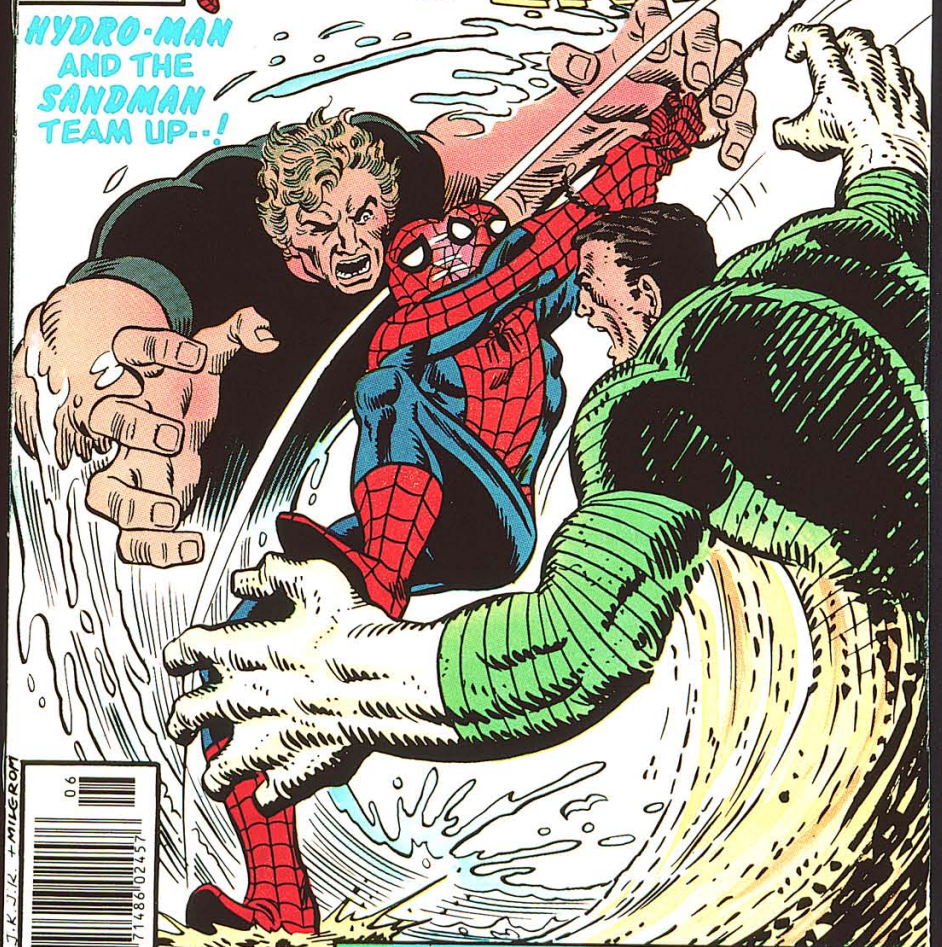
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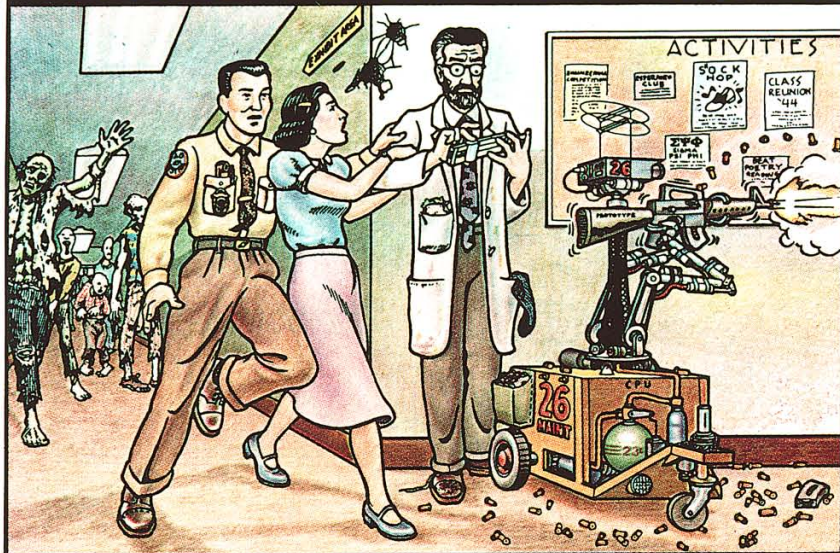
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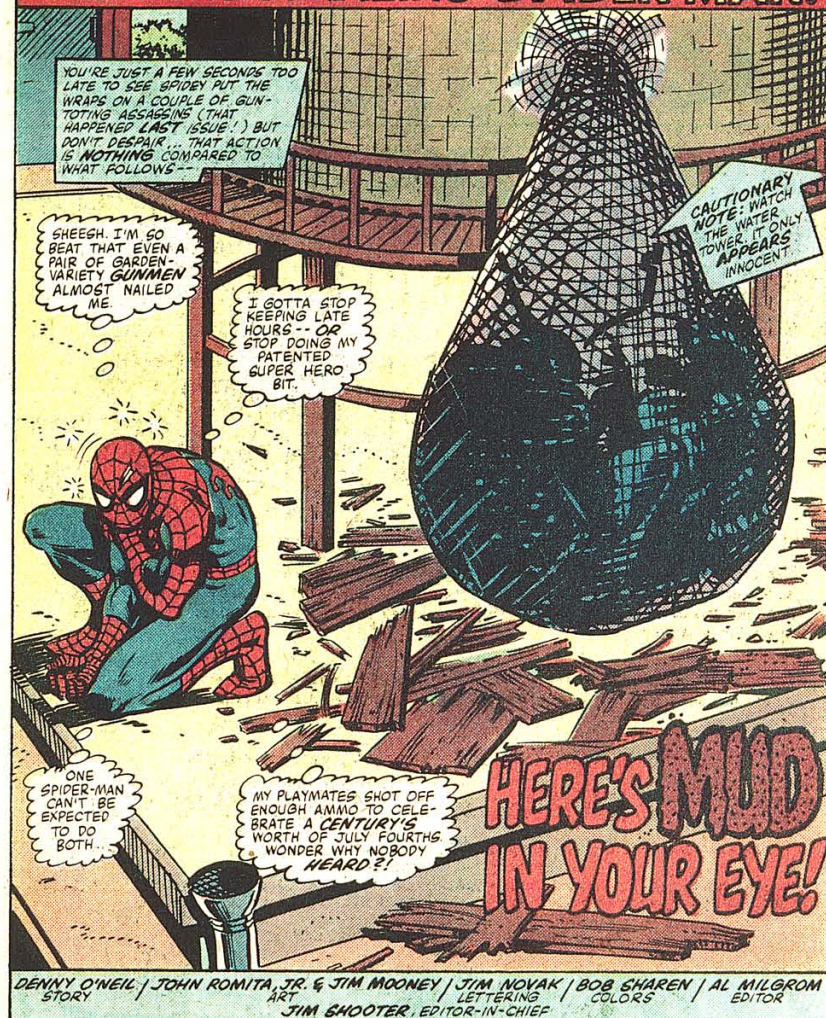
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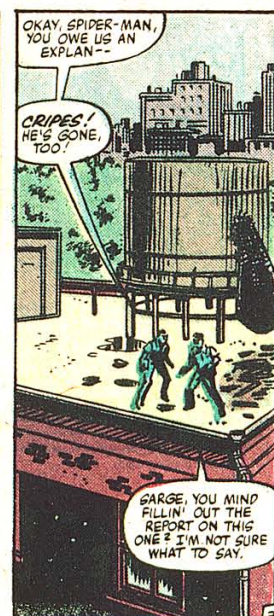
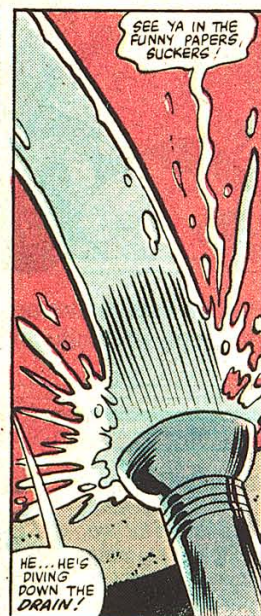
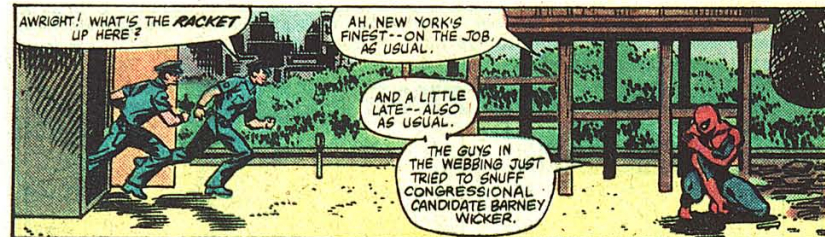
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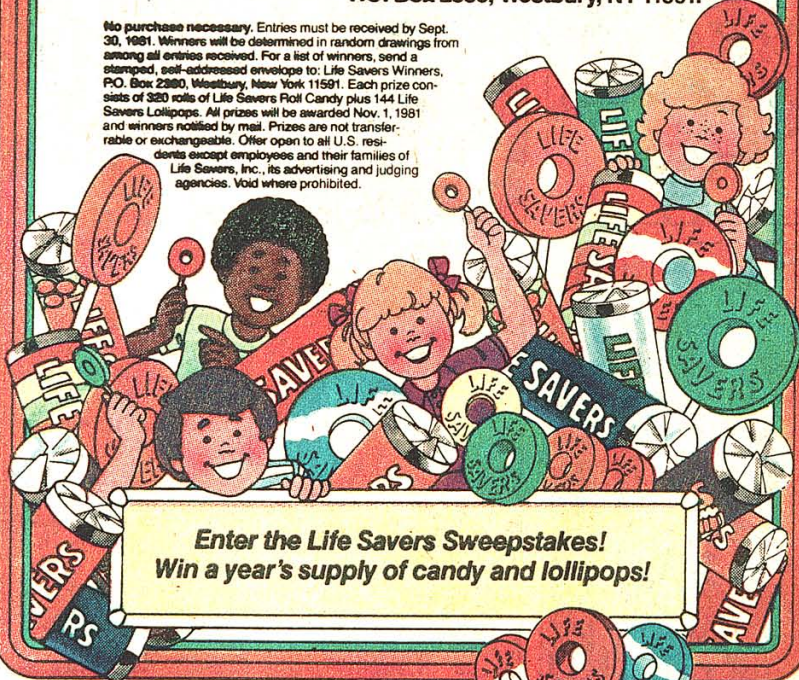
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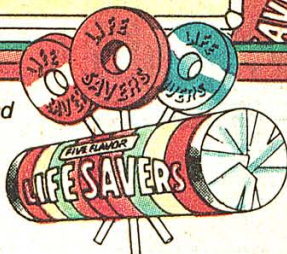
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NARROWS BRIDGE...

I HATED TO
SPLIT LIKE THAT
... IT WAS JUST
POSTPONING THE
INEVITABLE
CONFRONTATION
WITH WATER-
BRAIN.

BUT I WAS IN
NO CONDITION TO
FIGHT. HE'D A
WRECKED ME.
PERMANENTLY.

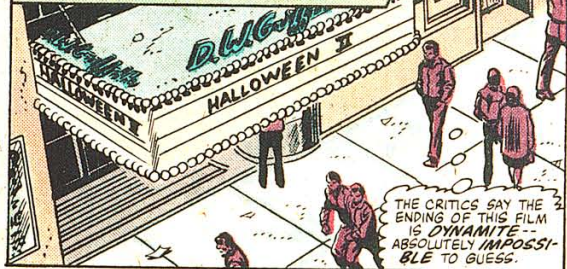
AT LEAST MY PETER
PARKER THREADS ARE
WHERE I LEFT 'EM. I
SHOULD BE GRATEFUL
FOR SMALL FAVORS.
VERY SMALL.

I FEEL LIKE A
GOGGY GRAHAM
CRACKER... NEED
TO MELLOW OUT.

MAYBE A MOVIE'LL DO THE TRICK. THAT NEW
MURDER MYSTERY OPENED AT THE GRIFFITH.

AND I'VE GOT
THE PRICE OF A
TICKET... JUST.

SO, AN HOUR AND A CHANGE OF CLOTHING LATER...



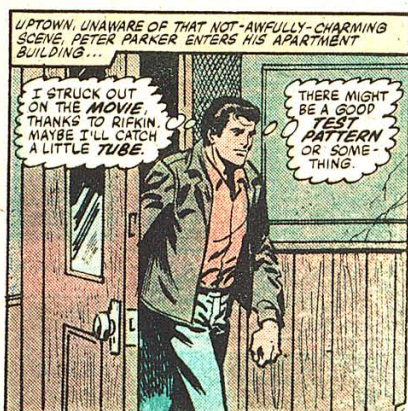
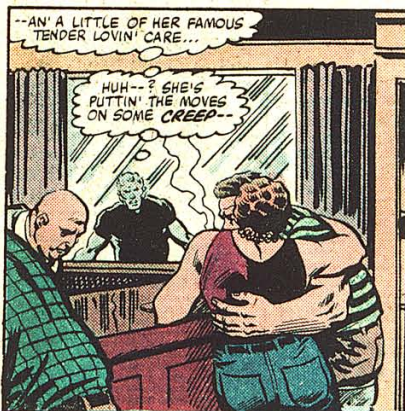
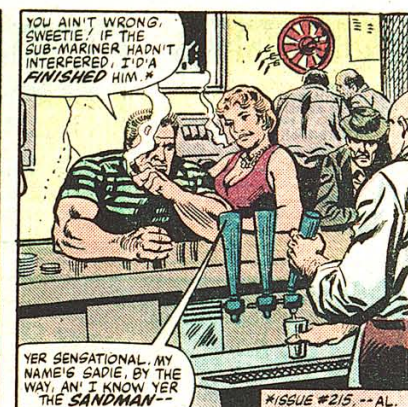
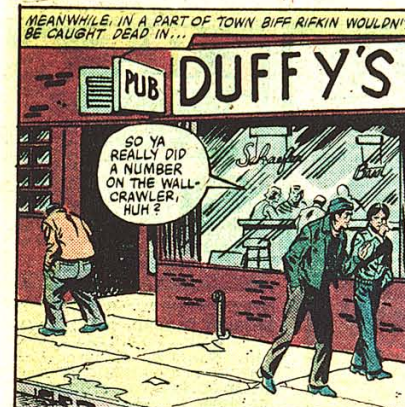
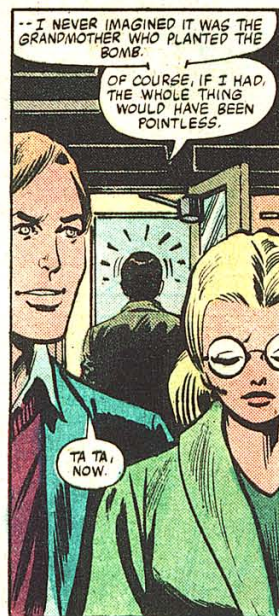
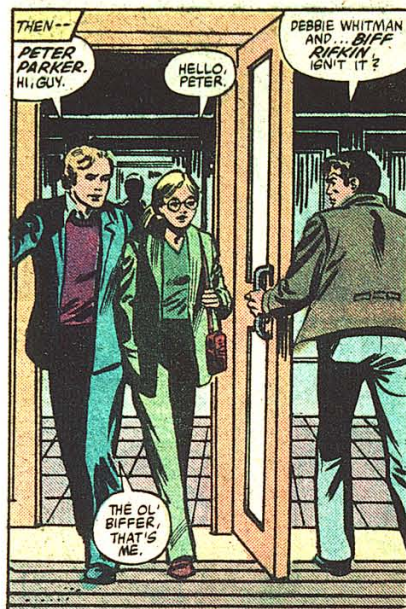
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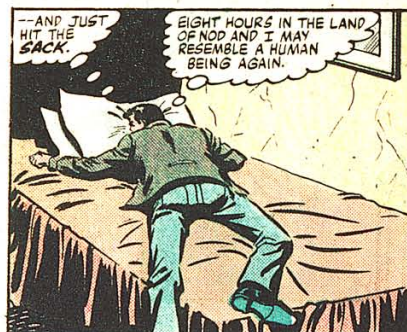
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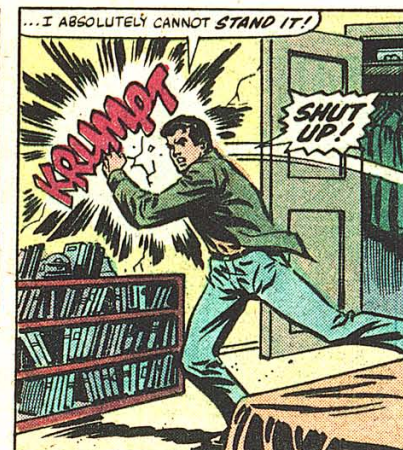


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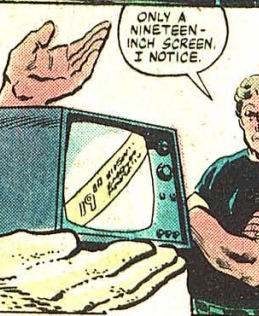
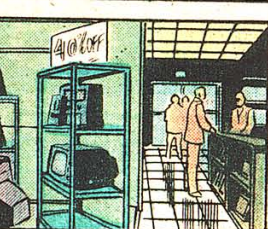
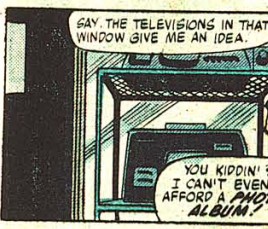
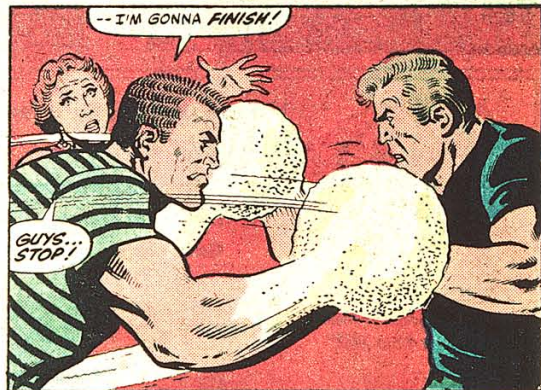
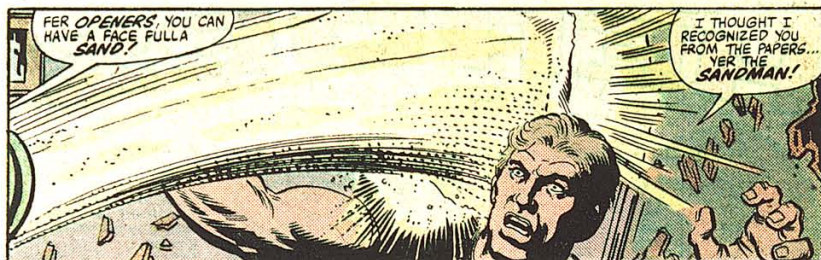
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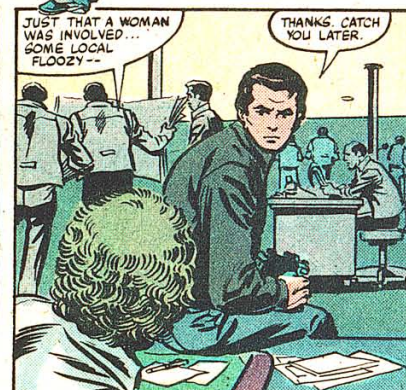
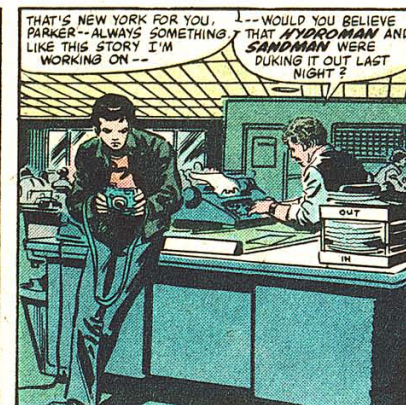
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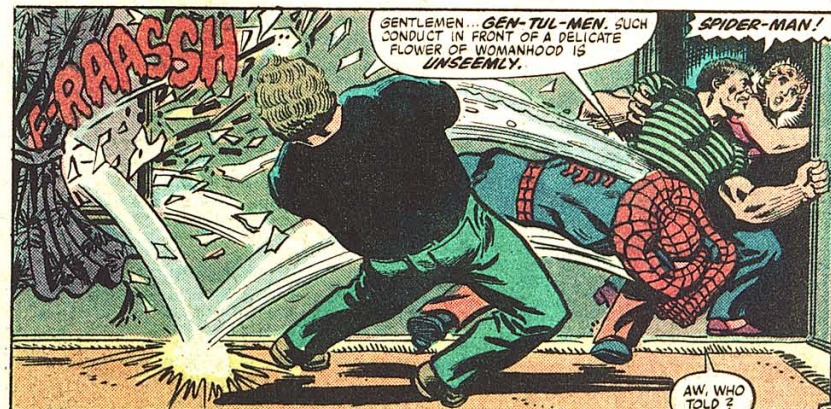
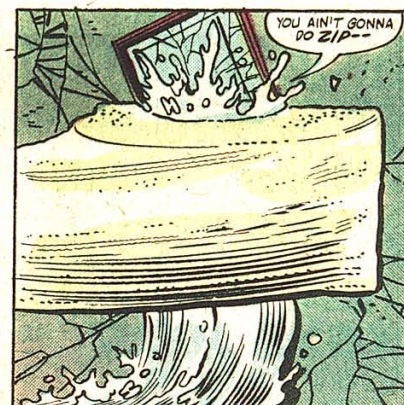
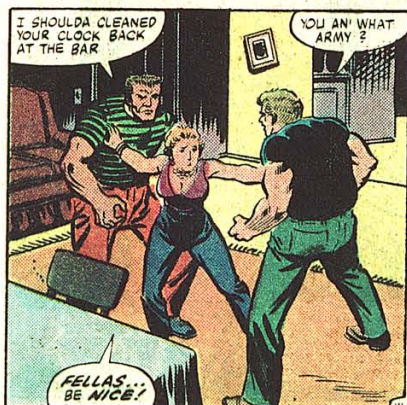
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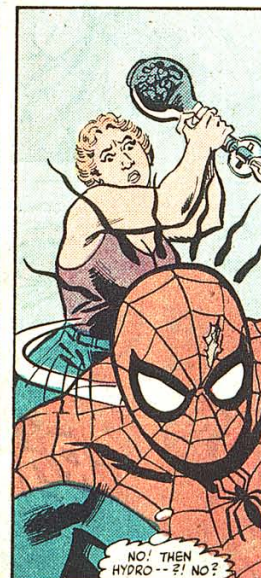
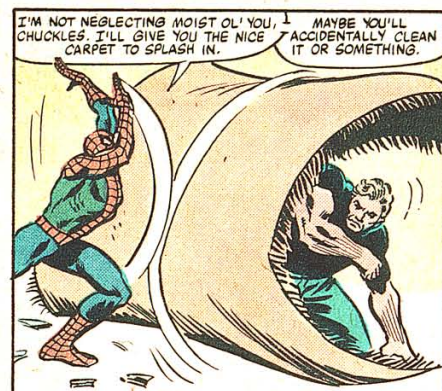
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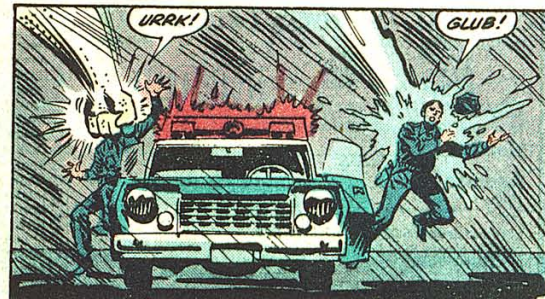
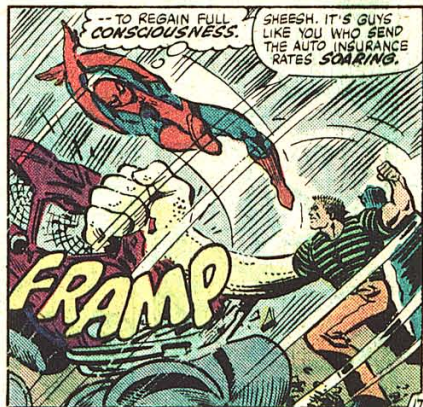
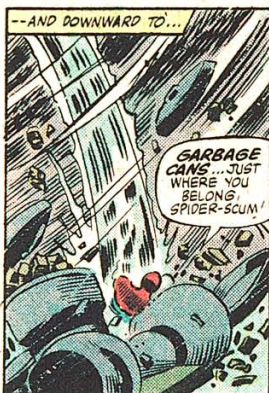
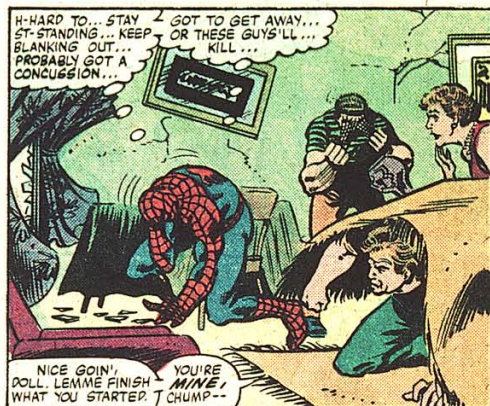
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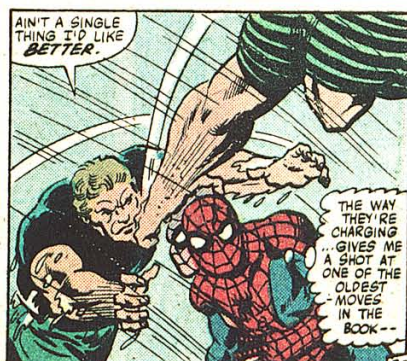
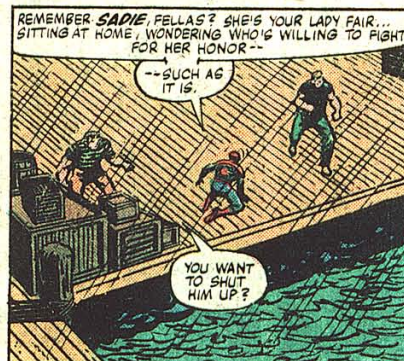
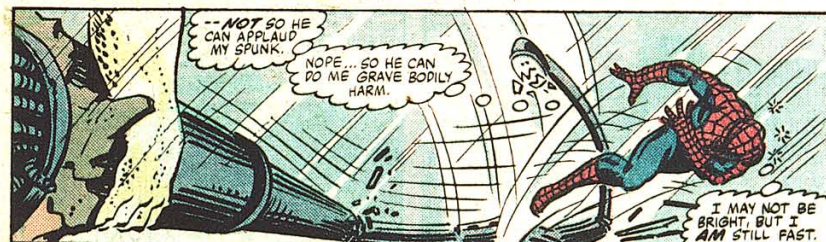
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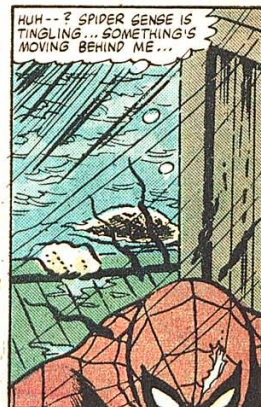
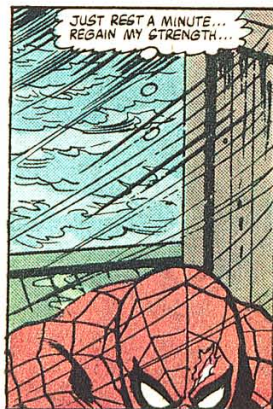
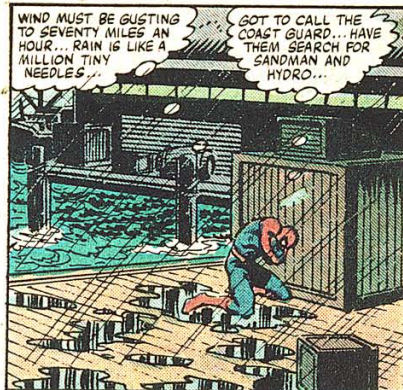
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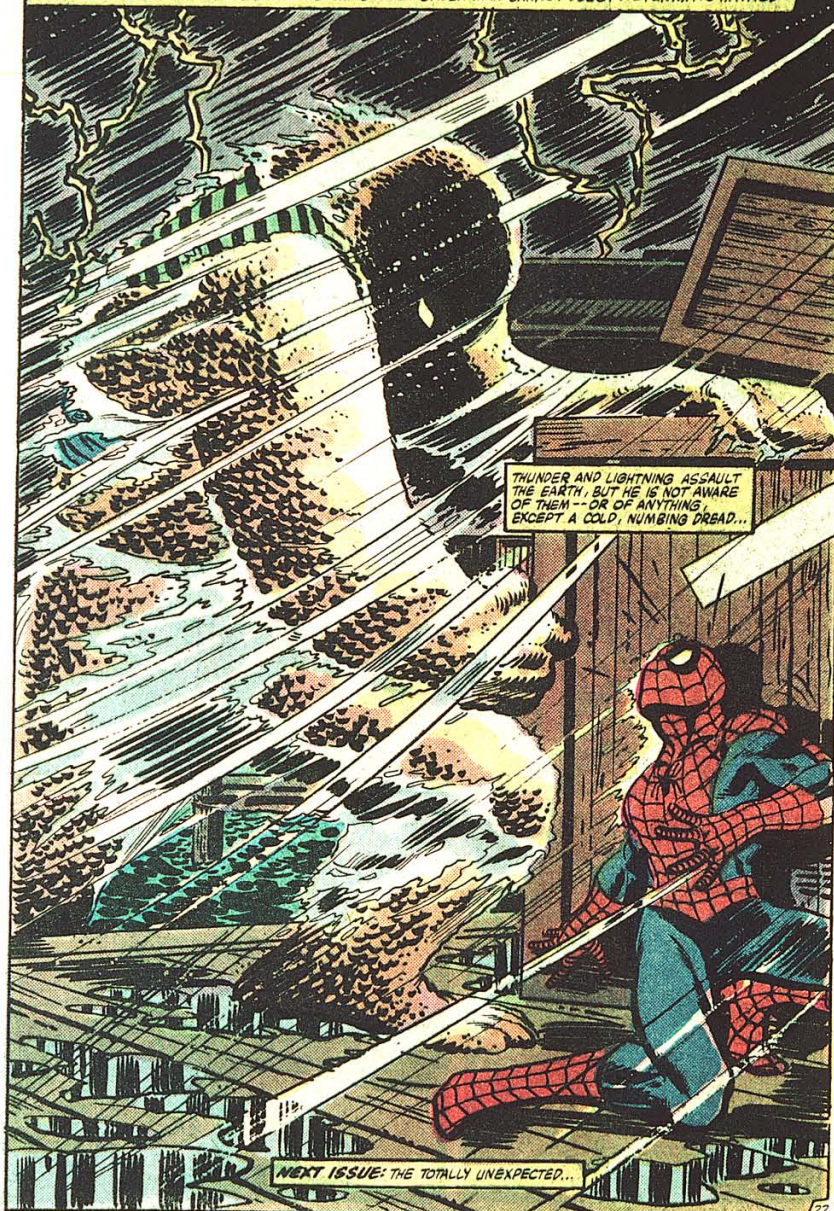
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NEXT ISSUE: THE TOTALLY UNEXPECTED...

THE SPIDER'S WEB

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ALLEN MILGROM
EDITOR
JACK ABEL
ASSISTANT EDITOR

Dear Denny,

For a variety of reasons, I've been quite critical of most of your SPIDER-MAN scripts, but issue #213 was definitely a winner. The cover was superb, the villains were intense and deadly, and the text and dialogue were entertaining and well thought out. All of which leads me to conclude that you're starting to get a feel for this book.

Sincerely
Kevin C. McConnell
118 Main Avenue
Warren, PA 16365

Most everyone who wrote in about #213 liked it. (This is not always the case, alas, alas.) Which makes me feel fine, and inclines me to print a handful of letters without these dopey, bold-type, space-killing replies...

Denny,

Yahoo! This is it. Thank you.

The Wizard is the perfect villain for Spidey, from way back in KING SIZE SPECIAL #4, and he still works now.

But there is something else. The feeling is back. I can not really explain it, except that I could imagine myself accidentally bleaching out my costume, falling in love at first sight (just have), going out with someone like Debbie Whitman and risking my life to save someone I don't even know. Maybe I'm still an adolescent at heart, but I like to think I'm reliving my past through this comic book. It is good.

Oh, maybe SPIDER-MAN will never be confused with a best-selling novel. Some of my associates would not even consider it literature. But it is—very well written, tightly characterized literature.

The return of Subso was great. Denny has to be the greatest writer ever in SPIDER-MAN. But now back to #213. I somehow think Liya and the girl who moved next door to Peter are one and the same. Also, are you ever going to bring back Madam Web? Ever since her appearance in #210, I wanted to see more of her. Also, let something big happen between Peter Parker and Debra Whitman. I don't know exactly what, but make it big. Finally, try to bring back Hydro Man.

Congratulations. You nailed the mystery villain/Liya/neighbor connection perfectly. Only, why didn't you sign your name to your letter? Were you afraid we'd be mad at you for guessing our little secret? Naw...

As for your requests: as you doubtless know, Madam Web made a brief but vital appearance in #216, and Hydro Man graces the issue you now hold. (Oops. Another interruption. This is really embarrassing...)

Dear Marvel,

THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN has always been my favorite mag, but when you took Peter Parker out of the Bugle...well, that made me furious. And to make matters worse, it looked like Spidey wouldn't have a steady writer-artist team. That was bad. But now I feel differently. Denny O'Neil and John Romita, Jr., are just right for this comic.

They go together like bacon and eggs. The past few issues prove Denny's quality as a writer and John's as an artist. Keep up the good work, guys.

Rob Linkowski
218 South Ogden St.
Buffalo, N.Y. 14206

We intend to, Rob. (Did it again! I'm beginning to feel terrible about this, people.)

Dear Denny, J.R., Jim, Bob, Al and Shooter,

All reet! So sweet! SPIDER-MAN can't be beat.

This will be kind of stream-of-consciousness—there's a Glenn Miller album on the stereo and I have a few more comics to read. I'm in heaven. The JRJ/Mooney art was good. I can't help calling him JRJ: I practically grew up with his father's art.

Anyhow, I would like to thank you for a return to the good old days. Warning: if you don't keep this up, Denny, I am going to be so mad. (Incidentally, I'm 19, but rereading this letter makes me feel 30.)

Mike Sopp
436 W. 32
Earle, PA 16508

And reading your letter makes me feel like 19...or 15...or 11... (Oops, I didn't mean to interrupt with a dopey, bold-type, space-killing reply. Sorry)

Dear Denny,

In issue #213, ol' P.P.'s luck was running true to form once again. The biggest question, of course, is: Whozzit? To answer this question, I delved into my character list (yes, I keep one) and found two likely suspects—Kingpin, Jr., The Schemer, and Miracle Man. From the shadowy figure's comments on page 13, I gather he is not particularly hostile towards Spider-Man—definitely not The Schemer. Thus, I cast my vote for Miracle Man.

Karl Hiller
1264 W. Galbraith Rd.
North College Hill, OH 45231

Sorry, Karl. Although yours were good guesses, they were wrong guesses. In fact, as of this writing, only a single Marvelite figured out the identity of the baddie. (Oops. Interrupted again. Apologies.)

Dear Denny,

I absolutely loved #214. The cover—wow. "I am the great and powerful Oz—oops, Wizard!" I picture the Wizard as having a higher voice than the original. But maybe all supervillains have deep, menacing voices, especially while making threats.

The story is great. It has everything that made Spidey famous—the neuroses, the faded sult gimmick, the new neighbor (vavavavoom!) (she'd better be back), nifty villains and the derring do. What can I say? Just keep it coming!

Excelsior!

Phil Jones
P.O. Box 271
Starkville, MS 39759

We've always figured the Wiz sounds like rusty nails and ground glass being shaken together in a baggie, Phil. (Oh, rats... Listen, since I can't seem to keep my comments to myself, I might as well do something nice for you. So immediately after the letter below, I'll reveal the surprise ending to next month's story.)

Dear Webblings:

AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #213 was MARVELOUS. I'm glad to see the Wizard again. He's one of your most interesting villains, along with the Frightful Four. I also liked the narration leading up to the Wizard's escape, Denny. John, your artwork was incredible as usual. Especially the battle with the robot spider (which could have been longer, Denny) atop the World Trade Center.

About Peter Parker's howling neighbor: He cannot be the tall guy in the cowboy suit. That's too obvious and Marvel had made a trademark of complication. I'm willing to bet it's the midget in the purple outfit. He's the screaming singer that's been driving Spidey nuts for nearly six issues.

Petes' other neighbor: He shouldn't jump to conclusions about this girl. What happens if she's related to the Kingpin or Doctor Doom? (Just kidding.)

Before I go, let's see more of: The Rhino, Masked Marauder, Kangaroo, Scorpion, The Terrible Tinkerer (and his pal, Toy), The Punisher and the Man-Wolf. Who, as you recall, all got their careers started in THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN. Also, where's Harry Osborn? Make him go insane and become the Green Goblin again.

Another thing, guys: You've invented some pretty menacing baddies over the years, but rarely have they been used more than once. When and where will we see once more: Will-o-the-Wisp, The Smasher, Man Mountain Marko, Cyclone, Grizzly and Mirage, just to name a few? And hey, bring back Doc Ock.

Loyally yours
Andrew Krepela
6102 138th St. S.E.
Everett, WASH. 98204

Marvel always aims to please, Andy. The Tinkerer appeared in PETER PARKER—THE SPECTACULAR SPIDER-MAN #63, the Scorpion will grace the pages of a forthcoming MARVEL TEAM-UP, and we have plans for most of the other baddies he mentioned. Keep Watching.

Oh, golly. I just realized I had only 43 words to tell you that ending and I used them up replying to Andy Krepela. All out of space. Sorry.

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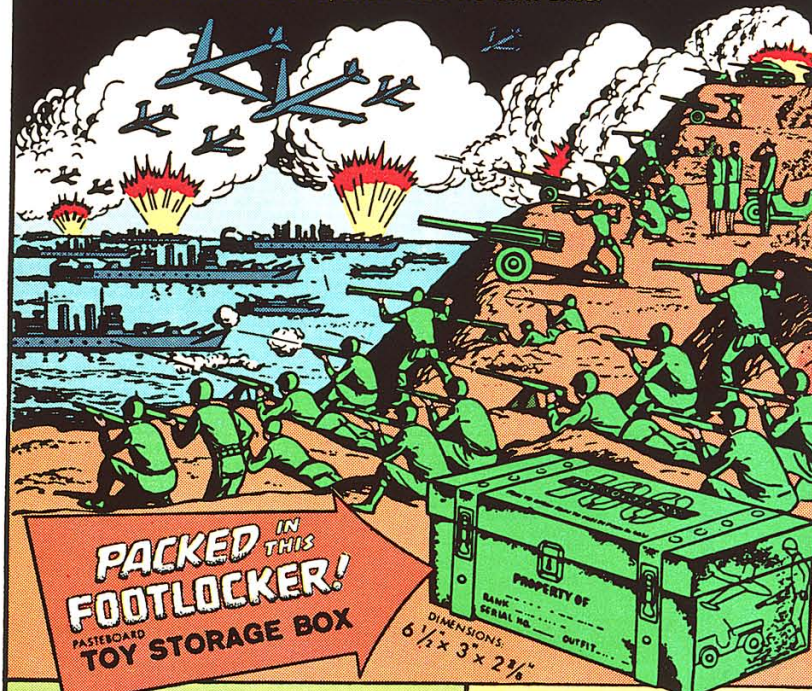
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